1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23	Sikkim	8.94	7.15	7.4	8.0	7.9
24	Tamil Nadu	11.89	11.29	4.41	4.6	8.0
25	Tripura	9.09	8.43	NA	N.A	8.8
26	Uttar Pradesh	5.25	7.18	7.16	6.5	6.5
27	Uttarakhand	5.66	9.84	9.37	8.7	8.4
28	West Bengal	5.72	8.77	7.74	N.A	7.4
All-India GDP (99-00 base)		9.52	9.75	9.01	6.7	8.7

Source: CSO(Central Statistical Organisation) : Data As on 27-10-2009

Criteria for poverty line

3175. SHRI. T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether criteria for fixing the poverty line has not been revised for long;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether crores of people are affected due to non revision of criteria; and

(d) if so, the action taken to revise the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) The criteria for fixing the poverty line to estimate the poverty in the country has been reviewed from time to time to take into account the changed situation. To begin with, the Planning Commission in 1977, constituted a 'Task Force on Projections of Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand', which submitted its report in 1979. The Task Force defined the poverty line as per capita consumption expenditure level of Rs. 49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per capita per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 cal in rural areas and 2100 cal in urban areas. These poverty lines were applied uniformly in all the States. In September, 1989 an Expert Group on 'Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor' was constituted to look into the methodology for estimation of poverty and to redefine the poverty line, if necessary. The Expert Group which submitted its report in 1993 did not change the definition of poverty defined by Task Force. However, the Expert Group recommended the disaggregation of the national poverty line into state wise poverty lines in order to reflect the state wise price differences. In 2005, an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar was set up to review the methodology of estimation of poverty. The Expert Group has submitted its report recently on 08.12.2009.

East and West Godavari district projects

3176. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released any fresh report on the implementation of centrally sponsored projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, during the last five years especially for East and West Godavari District Projects of tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise. According to information provided by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, releases have been made to East and West Godavari districts under various Central sector & centrally sponsored schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India. The year-wise releases made to East and West Godavari districts are given in the Statement-I & II respectively.

Statement-I

East Godavari District

(Rs. Lakh)

Year	Allocation & Release				Total	
	Plan	State Govt. Non-Plan	Total (Col.2+Col.3)	Central Govt. CSS	Total amount released (Col.4+Col.5)	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2004-05	749.70	484.21	1233.91	429.43	1663.34	1547.40
2005-06	855.48	537.48	1376.73	154.59	1531.32	1890.62
2006-07	802.48	521.25	1323.73 '	229.74	1553.47	1615.65
2007-08	1130.60	1463.14	2593.74	209.26	2803.00	2693.18
2008-09	1880.52	1863.31	3743.83	112.46	3856.29	3981.29
TOTAL	5418.78	4869.39	10271.94	1135.48	11407.42	11728.14

Statement-II

West Godavari District

(Rs. Lakh)

Year	Allocation & Release				Total	
	Plan	State Govt. Non-Plan	Total (Col.2+Col.3)	Central Govt. CSS	Total amount released (Col.4+Col.5)	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2004-05	542.26	276.35	818.61	346.51	1165.12	892.92
2005-06	681.90	310.79	1092.84	139.16	1232.00	1428.07
2006-07	572.63	410.94	983.57	185.05	1168.62	1029.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2007-08	833.50	867.90	1701.40	88.74	1790.14	1745.53
2008-09	742.14	1243.66	1985.80	43.77	2029.57	2128.90
TOTAL	3372.43	3109.64	6582.22	803.23	7385,45	7224.75

Usage of science and technology in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

3177. SHRI SABIR ALI:
SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of propagation, dissemination and usage of Science and Technology in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(b) the steps that are proposed to further strengthen and disseminate the Science and Technology in the two States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (b) The Department of Science and Technology has a specific plan scheme titled "Science and Technology Communication and Popularisation" with the objective to communicate Science and Technology and inculcate scientific temper among people across the country including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. In order to propagate, disseminate and use Science and Technology, various activities such as National Children's Science Congress; National Science Day; Science Exhibitions; Water Resource and Ecosystems Management; Women and Child-Health and Nutrition Programme; Motivational Programme for Talented School Students; Explaining science behind Miracle; Training Workshop on Disaster Management; Programme on Detection and Prevention of Food Adulteration; Appreciating Physics in Everyday Life; Year of Planet Earth and Audio-Video Programmes, Films, Activity Kits and Publications have been undertaken in all the States including the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. These activities are planned to be continued in future also.

Caste as a form of discrimination

3178. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether responding to the appeal by Dalit Groups, the United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) has proposed to recognize caste as a form of discrimination based on descent and birth;

(b) whether Nepal has hailed the UNHRC's proposal as worthy of adoption and has agreed to abide by UNHRC charter on case discrimination; and

(c) whether India is opposed to the internationalization of the caste issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT